CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FLORA OF THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

BENJAMIN C. STONE
Department of Botany, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia

From 14 September to 10 December 1957, I collected plants in the Solomon Islands on an expedition made possible by a National Science Foundation grant (G1834) to Professor H. St. John of the University of Hawaii. Although the main purpose of the expedition was to investigate the genus *Pandanus*, of which 86 numbers were collected in the Solomon Islands, 25 in the New Hebrides, and 39 in the Bismarck Archipelago, there was also opportunity to collect other plants of which 232 numbers were collected in the Solomon Islands, 40 in the New Hebrides, and 14 in the Bismarck Archipelago. The very imperfect state of our botanical knowledge of the flora of these three island groups stimulated a desire to study all the available material, and has led so far to eleven papers (Stone & Lane, 1960; Stone 1961, 1962, 1963, 1965, 1966, 1969, 1970, 1972, 1973; Stone & Whitmore, 1971) dealing respectively with a few ferns, *Sararanga* (Pandanaceae) the genus *Boerlagiodendron* (Araliaceae), new *Pandanus* and *Freycinetia* (Pandanaceae), a new species of *Polyscias* (Araliaceae), an account of *Pandanus* in the Solomon Islands, and a study, with descriptions of two new species, of *Tapeinosperma* (Myrsinaceae). The paper of *Sararanga* was monographic in scope, including the Philippine species. Material on *Pandanus* is accumulating and some is awaiting publication. A complete account of the Solomons *Freycinetia* is now in preparation. The Myrsinaceae are being worked up in collaboration with Dr. T.C. Whitmore, formerly of the Forest Dept., B.S.I.P.

The present account is an attempt to deal with all but the most intractable collections from the 1957 expedition, and is set out, in the traditional Englerian arrangement of families, purely for convenience. The order of genera and species within each family is, however, alphabetical. Each collection is documented with appropriate notes, and where needed, descriptions and illustrations.

The first set of the specimens is deposited in the herbarium of the Bishop Museum, Honolulu (BISH); a second set, not so complete, is at the U.S. National Herbarium, Washington DC. (US); a further set is for the time being kept in the author's possession; and a very few fourth replicates are in the Arnold Arboretum, Cambridge, Massachusetts (A).

I should like to acknowledge the thanks I owe to several colleagues; the late Mr. James Sinclair (Singapore), Dr. T.C. Whitmore (Kepong, W. Malaysia), Dr. T. Koyama (New York), and Prof. A.C. Smith (Honolulu).

Literature Cited

Stone, B.C. 1961. The Genus *Sararanga* (Pandanaceae). Brittonia 13: 2; 212-224.

1962. *Boerlagiodendron* (Araliaceae) in Eastern Melanesia. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. DC. 75, 25-32.

1963. The genus *Freycinetia* in the Solomon Islands. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. DC. 76, 1–8.

1965. Melanesian plant studies I, II. Suppl. Micron. 1-6. Kuala Lumpur.

Stone (cont.)

1966. *Polyscias verticillata* (Araliaceae), a new species from the Solomon Islands. Jour. Arnold Arb. 47: 3, 270-272.

1969. *Pandanus decus-montium,* a new species from the Solomon Islands. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. DC. 82, 439-442.

1970. Materials for a Monograph of *Freycinetia,* IX. The genus *Freycinetia* in the Solomon Islands. *Kew Bull.* 24: 2, 355–375.

1972. The genus *Pandanus* in the Solomon Islands, with notes on adjacent regions. Malaysian J. Sci. IA: 93–132, figs. 1–18, Pls. 1, 2.

1973. The Genus *Pandanus* in the Solomon Islands, with notes on adjacent regions (Concluded). Malaysian J. Sci. 2A: 59–80.

and I.E. Lane, 1960. On a small collection of ferns from the New Hebrides and the Solomon Islands. Bot. Notis. 112, 371-376.

and T.C. Whitmore, 1971. Notes on the systematy of Solomon Islands plants and some of their New Guinea relatives. XI. Reinwardtia 8, 3–11.

Walker, F.S. 1948 and 1962. The Forests of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate. Honiara, B.S.I.P. (Reprint of the London, 1948, edition).

Whitmore, T.C. 1966. Guide to the Forests of the British Solomon Islands. B.S.I.P. Oxford Univ. Press, London. (Forest Record No. 2, Forestry Dept. B.S.I.P.).

ULMACEAE

Celtis L.

Celtis kajewskii Merril & Perry, J. Arn. Arb. 22 (1941), 254.

SANTA YSABEL: Tatamba Lagoon, Horara Islet; alt. 15 m. tree with triplinerved ovate leaf blades, 24 Oct. 1957, Stone **2509** (BISH).

MORACEAE

Ficus L.

Ficus verticillaris Corner, Gard. Bull. Sing. 18: (1960) 27.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, near Tantalau Village, c. 325 m. alt., tree about 13 m. tall, leaves clustered near ends of slender branches; figs globose, 4 mm diam., n.v. "fa 'adi'ila", 23 Sept. 1957, Stone **2347** (BISH).

Ficus indigofera Rechinger, Fedde Rep. Sp. Nov. 11 (1912) 179.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Tantalau, 325 m, tree 15 m tall, leaf blades with tiny basal auricles, n.v. "aitia"; 23 Sept. 1957, Stone **2340** (BISH).

Ficus dissipata Corner, Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc. Lond. 253: 783 (1967) 149.

MALAITA: Fiu River 4 miles N. of Aulei near the coast, 7 m, tree, cauliflorous, leaf blades reddish-hispid; 19 Sept. 1957, Stone **2298** (BISH).

Ficus erinobotrya Corner var. solomonensis Corner, Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc. Lond. 253: 783 (1967) 108, f. 34.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District Kwalo and vicinity, alt. 650m, tree 10 m tall, in a clearing; figs orange, hairy, maroon-brown when ripe; leaf blades scabrous, asymmetric, harshly scabrid. 24 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2394** (BISH). – Tantalau Village, 325 m alt., tree in adjacent forest, n.v. "samota"; 23 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2323** (K).

Streblus Lour.

Streblus glaber (Merr.) Corner, Gard. Bull. Sing. 19 (1962) 221.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo and vicinity, c. 650 m. alt., tree with milky sap, n.v. "tou"; 29 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2425** (BISH).

Streblus solomonensis Corner, Gard. Bull. Sing. 19 (1962) 224.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo and vicinity, c. 650 m. alt., tree, flowers in short spikes resembling *Gnetum*, n.v. "aingaro"; 29 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2437** (BISH).

PROTEACEAE

Finschia Warburg

Finschia chloroxantha Diels, Engl. Bot. Jahrb. 54 (1916) 204; White, Pac. Sci. 3:3 (1949), 190-194, f. 3.

MALAITA: Tantalau Village, nearby forest, tree with yellow fruits; 23 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2322** (BISH). TULAGI: Ridge above docks, tree with yellowish– or orange–brown fruits. 10 Nov. 1957, **Stone 2538** (BISH).

Both specimens are in complete accord with the description and figure in C.T. White's monograph of 1949. The species was already known from the Solomon Islands from Kolombangara Is. in the New Georgia Group and is known to occur in New Guinea, the Caroline Islands, and the New Hebrides where it has passed under several specific and generic names (e.g. *Finschia densiflora* C.T. White, *Grevillea elaeocarpifolia* Guillaumin and *Helicia micronesica* Kanehira).

LORANTHACEAE

Amyema V. Tieghem

Amyema rigidiflora Danser, Bull, Jard. Bot. Buitenz. 3: 10 (1929) 298; ibid. 11 (1931) 344.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, near Tantalau Village, c. 325 m alt., epiphytic hemiparasite, leaf blades narrowly deltoid–ovate, flowers in open, few-flowered, axillary umbels; leaves subopposite or alternate; 23 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2334** (BISH).

I am not entirely convinced of the correctness of the determination, though it is the closest I have been able to come. The following slight differences may be pointed out: the above collection has somewhat smaller flowers; acuminate rather than rounded leaf apices; glabrous inflorescence axes and calyx, except for the marginal cilia; and slightly longer petioles (to 22 mm, not 12 mm). There being little if any real distinction in the essential floral characters and the inadequate material, this is provisionally considered as a slightly abberrant specimen of Danser's species. Known from Talaud Is. and N.E. New Guinea.

Amyema aff. **sogerensis** (S. LeM. Moroe) Danser, ibid. 10 (1929) 299; ibid. 11 (1931) 246.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District; Tantalau-Launguata trail via Kwai' afa River, c. 325 m. alt., hemiparasite on tree (host = *Phyllanthus* sp.) shrubby, leaves mostly strictly opposite, green. corolla red; 22 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2308** (BISH, US).

This plant differs from Danser's *A. sogerensis* in the absence of corolla scales. There are supposed to be six scales "directed upwards inside (the corolla) at 1 mm above the base" which cannot be located in the flowers of the cited specimen. This is perhaps due to the undeveloped state of these flowers, which appear only about half-grown.

A. sogerensis is reported from S.E. New Guinea and New Ireland. If, as I suppose, the above specimen proves to be of the same taxon it is a logical range extension. One specimen cited by Danser (Forbes 682) was collected at 510 m alt., the other from New Guinea (**Forbes 715**, Type BM) at 1500 m. The New Ireland specimen must have been from a low altitude (Port Carteret, **Barclay 3517**).

AMARANTHACEAE

Deeringia R. Br.

Deeringia arborescens (R. Br.) Druce, Rep. Bot. Exch. Club Brit. Is. 1916 (1917) 619. *Lestibudesia arborescens* R. Br., Prod. (1810) 414.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo, c. 650 m. alt., climber in secondary growth of clearing, leaves simple, alternate; blades elliptic. petals 5, stamens 5; fruit 4-lobed, baccate, magenta-pink, slightly fleshy; seeds 4-7, glossy black, subcordate; 24 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2368** (BISH).

A new record for the Solomons flora. Reported so far from Malaysia, New Guinea, and Queensland.

D. amaranthoides (Lamk.) Merr. was first reported from Bougainville by Merrill & Perry in J. Arn. Arb. 23: (1942) 385.

WINTERACEAE

Belliolum Tieghem

Belliolum haplopus (Burtt) A. C. Smith, J. Arn. Arb. 23 (1942) 438.

MALAITA': Kwara-ae District, Kwalo and vicinity, alt. 650 m ; tree with simple, oblanceolate, spiralled leaves; blades grey–green beneath; 28 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2429** (BISH).

ANNONACEAE

Phaeanthus Hk. f. & Thoms.

Phaeanthus macropodus (Miq.) Diels var. mollifolius Diels, Bot. Jahrb. 49 (1912) 161.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo and vicinity, alt. 650 m; in forests; small tree with red or yellowish fruits on gynophores from a torus; 28-29 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2434** (BISH, US).

A new record. Determined by the late Mr. James Sinclair.

MYRISTICACEAE

Myristica L.

Myristica fatua Houtt. var. **papuana** Markgraf *ex* Diels, J. Arn. Arb. 10 (1929) 77.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, near Tantalau Village, in forests, c. 325 m alt., tree to 30 m.

high, leaves alt., blades fulvous beneath; flowers and fruits along twigs, n.v. "Kakala'a", 23 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2346** (A, BISH, SING, US).

NEW HEBRIDES: Nguna Island, just N. of Ile Vate (Efate) Is. near summit of Mt. Mawasi, c. 325 m. alt., tree with 2–locular fruits, red aril, n.v. "na pakura niuta" (transl. "the *Calophyllum* of the hills"); 4 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2211** (BISH, US).

All specimens were determined by the late James Sinclair. The New Hebridean specimen has been included here for convenience and phytogeographic interest.

LAURACEAE

Litsea Lam.

Litsea perglabra C.K. Allen, J. Arn. Arb. 23 (1942) 126.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo, 650 m; rain forest tree, leaf blades broadly ovate, n.v. "arasibolu", 29 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2421** (BISH).

Litsea solomonensis C.K. Allen, J. Arn. Arb. 23 (1942) 127.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwai-afa River, between Tantalau and Launguata, 325 m., 22 m tree; flowers white in axillary clusters, stamens 8 or 9, n.v. "sasasu"; 22 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2313** (BISH)

SANTA YSABEL: Ridge between Koloteve village and Sesedo village, southern tip of island, 175 m., tree with white flowers, n.v. "giagila" (Bugotlang.); 14 Oct. 1957, **Stone 2492** (BISH).

The herbarium annotation by A. Kostermanns (SING) reads "Litsea timoriana Span."

This is a very common *Litsea* in the Solomons.

RUTACEAE

Micromelum Bl.

Micromelum minutum Wight & Arnott, Prod. (1834) 448.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Tantalau-Kwalo trail at c. 500 m. alt., rain forest tree to 15 m. high, leaflets paler below; petals 5, creamy-white; stamens, 10; fruits with odor of lime *(Citrus aurantifolia);* 24 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2365** (BISH, US).

Zanthoxylum L.

Zanthoxylum megistophyllum (Burtt) Hartley, J. Arn. Arb. 47 (1966) 193. *Fagara megistophylla* Burtt, Kew Bull. (1935) 301.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo and vicinity, c. 650 m. alt., tree in forests, n.v. "bulungali" (though this name is usually applied to species of *Canarium*); 23 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2420** (BISH).

According to Hartley, material with flowers is a desideratum for this very distinct species. The cited specimens, however, regrettably are all in ripe fruit.

MELIACEAE

Chisocheton Bl.

Chisocheton sp.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, near Tantalau Village, 325 m. alt., young tree 7 m. tall; fruits ramuline, subglobose, 3–4–celled, brown-fuzzy, 3 cm diam.; seeds 3 or 4, dark brown with red hilum and white funicle; n.v. "latareko"; 23 Sept. 1957, Stone 2352 (BISH). – Kwalo and vicinity, 650 m. alt., young tree, n.v. "latareko"; 29 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2432** (BISH).

Dysoxylum Bl.

Dysoxylum caulostachyum Miq., Ann. Mus. Bot. Lugd.–Bat. 4 (1868) 12.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo and vicinity, 650 m. alt., forest tree, fruits ramuline or cauline, brown-fuzzy, subglobose, 5-seeded, leaves large, pinnate, with opposite leaflets; n.v. "airande", 24 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2382** (BISH).

EUPHORBIACEAE

Pimeleodendron Hassk.

Pimeleodendron amboinicum Hasskarl in Versl., Med. Kon. Akad. Wet. 4 (1855) 140.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, near Tantalau, alt. c 325 m, tree 20 m tall, in forest, leaves simple, alternate; blades crenate; petiole basally swollen, curved; fruit elliptic, magenta-brown, red when ripe; seed 1, brown, in elastic, milky-sapped pulp, n.v. "aisumbu"; 23 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2349** (BISH, US).

Macaranga Thouars

Macaranga aleuritoides F.v. Mueller, Papuan Pl. (1875) 21.

GUADALCANAL: Tenaru River lowlands, swamp forest, 135-180m alt., along the river bank, trees with 3–lobed leaves; lobes long-apiculate; 15 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2282** (BISH).

Macaranga polyadenia Pax & Hoffm., Pflanzenr. Heft 63, Euph. – Mercurial. (1914) 25.

MALAITA: Kwalo and vicinity, alt. 650m., Kwaro-ae District, rainforest tree, n.v. "Kweto" or "abe-Kweto"; 29 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2419** (BISH).

Aporosa Bl.

Aporosa papuana Pax and Hoffm., Pflanzenr. Heft 81, Euph. – Phyllanth. (1922) 83.

MALAITA: Kwalo and vicinity, alt. 650 m., Kwara-ae District, 14m tall tree; fruits along the twigs, small, grey, globose, fuzzy; stipules large; 24 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2386** (BISH).

ANACARDIACEAE

Rhus L.

Rhus taitensis Guill., Ann. Sci. Nat. ser. 2; 7 (1837) 361.

MALAITA: Tantalau, forest near village, tree to 17m tall, n.v. "areko" (Kwara-ae); 23 Sept. 1957, Stone 2325 (BISH, US); same locality, tree 12m tall, leaves with 5–7 pairs of pinnae, fruiting, n.v. "akwasi"; same date, **Stone 2339** (BISH).

Of the vernacular names "akwasi" is preferred as "areko" is usually given to *Garuga floribunda.*

CORYNOCARPACEAE

Corynocarpus J.R. & G. Forst.

Corynocarpus cribbeanus (Bail.) L.S. Smith, Proc. Roy. Soc. Queensland 67 (1956) 31.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo and vicinity, alt. 600 m, tall tree in an old secondary forest; leaves opposite, blades elliptic; fruit light green, ellipsoid, 7.5 x 4.8 cm., 1-seeded; n.v. "ibo"; 24 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2367** (BISH).

ICACINACEAE

Stemonurus Bl.

Stemonurus sp.

MALAITA: Fiu River, 4 mi. N. of Auki, on the W. coast, 45m alt., secondary forest, 8m tree in a swamp area; leaves alternate, up to 15 x 6.5 cm; flowers in axillary, cymose panicles, or on the twigs; 19 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2296** (BISH).

LEEACEAE

Leea Royen *ex* L.

Leea tetramera Burtt, Kew Bull. (1935) 304. *Leea suaveolens* Merrill & Perry, J. Arn. Arb. 22 (1941) 381.

GUADALCANAL: Tenaru River, lowland swamp forest, alt. 135 m, small tree with bipinnate leaves; flattened, purplish fruits, n.v. "borabora"; 15 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2280** (BISH, US).

RHAMNACEAE

Alphitonia Reissek

Alphitonia incana (Roxb.) Teysm. & Binn. *ex* Kurz, J. Bot. (Lond.) 11 (1873) 208. *Rhamnus incana* Roxb., Hort. Beng. (1814) 17; Fl. Ind. 1(1820) 603. *Alphitonia moluccana* Teysm. & Binn., Cat. Hort. Hog. (1866) 221, *nomen. A. zizyphoides* (Spr.) A. Gray, Bot. U.S. Expl. Exped. 1 (1854) 278, t. 20. *Rhamnus zizyphoides* Spr., Fl. Hal. Mant. (1807) 37; Syst. 1 (1825) 768.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo and vivinity, 650m. alt., tree with leaf blades almost white beneath except on the nerves, wood sweet-fragrant, n.v. "kwanasia", 28-29 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2424** (BISH, US).

A common tree, frequent in secondary forests.

ELAEOCARPACEAE

Aceratium DC.

Aceratium insulare A.C. Smith, J. Arn. Arb. 25 (1944) 118.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, near Tantalau village, in forests, 325 m alt.; 20 m tree; leaf blades finely toothed, elliptic, glossy green and slightly pubescent above, flat green and pubescent beneath, base slightly emarginate, tip acuminate-apiculate; flowers axillary; fruit short-cylindric, 3 cm long, 2 cm diameter, greenish at base, ripening to pink and reddish, attached by a long, slender peduncle; n.v. "sura'u'u"; 23 Sept. 1957, Stone **2341** (BISH, US).

TILIACEAE

Trichospermum Bl.

Trichospermum psilocladum Merrill & Perry, J. Arn. Arb. 20 (1939) 341. **Fig. 1.**

SANTA YSABEL: Horara Islet, Tatamba Lagoon, near sea-level, in dry forests, tree 15 m. tall, with *Calophyllum inophyllum, Dillenia crenata, Parinarium glaberrimum, Casuarina nodiflora, Gnetum gnemon, Evodia* sp., etc.; 24 Oct. 1957, Stone **2514** (BISH).

This is very similar in general appearance to *T. ikutai* Kanehira (1932), which is probably the earliest valid name.

Trichospermum kajewskii Merril & Perry, J. Arn. Arb. 20 (1939) 340.

MALAITA: Kwalo and vicinity, alt. 650 m, Kwara-ae District, rain forest; tree 15 m tall, n.v. "sulu",; 29 Sept. 1957, Stone **2430** (BISH). (Vegetative).

Determined by T.C. Whitmore.

DILLENIACEAE

Dillenia L.

Dillenia crenata (A.C. Smith) Hoogland, Blumea 7 (1952) 42. *Wormia crenata* A. C. Smith, J. Arn. Arb. 22 (1941) 498.

SANTA Ysabel: Horara Islet, Tatamba Lagoon 15 m alt., common big tree in dry forests; petals white, connate by their tips, falling as a unit; stipules adnate to the petioles, but deciduous; 31 Oct. 1957, Stone **2520** (BISH).

This specimen is an excellent match for the description of this clear-cut species.

GUTTIFERAE

Calophyllum L.

Calophyllum paludosum C.T. White, J. Arn. Arb. 31 (1950) 98.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo, 650 m alt., in rain forest; large tree; n.v. "koumanu" (compare Hawaiian "kamani"); 29 Sept. 1957, Stone **2431** (BISH, US).

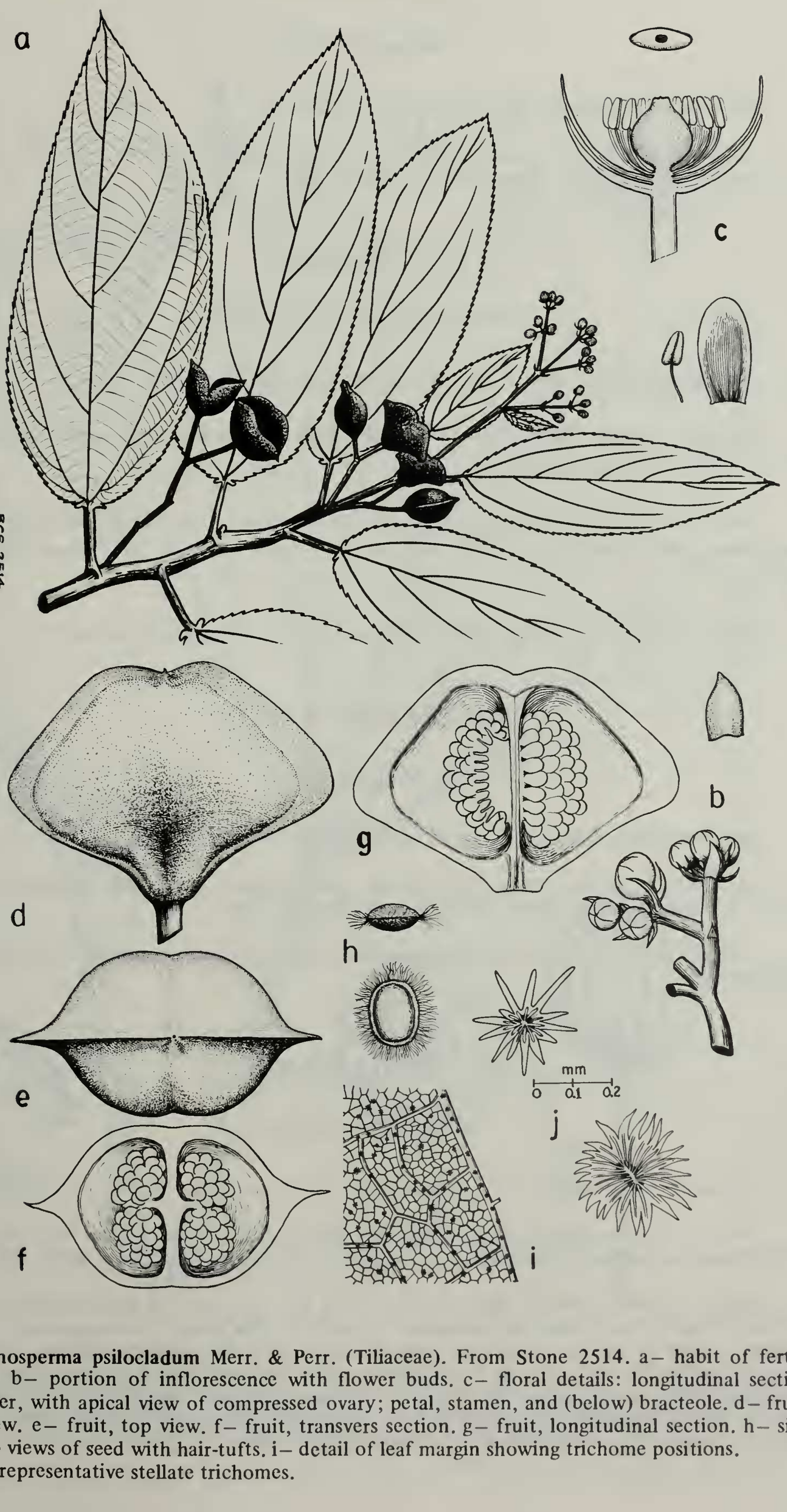

Fig. 1. **Trichosperma psilocladum** Merr. & Perr. (Tiliaceae). From Stone 2514. a– habit of fertile branch. b– portion of inflorescence with flower buds. c– floral details: longitudinal section of flower, with apical view of compressed ovary; petal, stamen, and (below) bracteole. d– fruit, side view. e– fruit, top view. f– fruit, transvers section. g– fruit, longitudinal section. h– side and top views of seed with hair-tufts. i– detail of leaf margin showing trichome positions. j– two representative stellate trichomes.

LEGUMINOSAE

Desmodium Desv.

Desmodium umbellatum (L.) DC., Prodr. 2 (1825) 325.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Tantalau area, forest, alt. 325 m, tree 12 m. tall, petals white, n.v. "aida-ahi"; 23 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2329** (A, BISH, US).

MYRTACEAE

Decaspermum J. R. & G. Forster

Decaspermum fruticosum J. R. & G. Forster, Char. Gen. P1. (1776) 74, pl. 37.

SANTA YSABEL: Horara Islet, 15 m. alt., small tree, flowers with greenish-white petals; 31 Oct. 1957, **Stone 2519** (A, BISH, US).

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, vicinity of Tantalau village, alt. 325 m, small tree 10 m. high; small flowers with white petals and pink stamens, n.v. "oridi", 23 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2338** (A, BISH, US).

This is an attractive little tree and occurs in abundance in the cited localities.

MELASTOMATACEAE

Melastoma L.

Melastoma malabathricum L., Sp. P1. (1753) 390.

MALAITA: Tantalau village, in secondary growth; shrub, petals pink; stamens pink, yellow, white; n.v. "maragwana"; 23 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2324** (BISH, US).

Walker (1948, 79) states that the same vernacular name is also applied to a species of *Maesa* (Myrsinaceae).

ARALIACEAE

Plerandra A. Gray

Plerandra solomonensis W.R. Philipson, Bot. Bull. Brit. Mus. (N.H.) 1:1 (1951) 10. **Fig. 2.**

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District; Kwalo and vicinity, alt., c. 650 m, tree with palmate leaves, infructescence umbellate, fruits black, n.v. "singoria"; 28-29 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2438** (BISH).

There are some points of discrepancy between this specimen and the description provided by Philipson which is very short and somewhat incomplete. The above collection shows the following features: mature flower bud 6 mm long or slightly longer; calyx undulate-discoid, the 5 lobes obscure, spreading; petals 5, nearly 1 mm thick; stamens (in staminate flowers) approximately 160; ovary (in female flowers) almost always 11-celled; fruit (seemingly ripe) only 18 x 17 mm (rather than 28 x 15 mm, Philipson's dimensions); leaflets 5 or 7, their petiolules 4–5 cm long (not 2.5 cm), with evident lateral nerves; pedicels about 5 per umbellule (not 20).

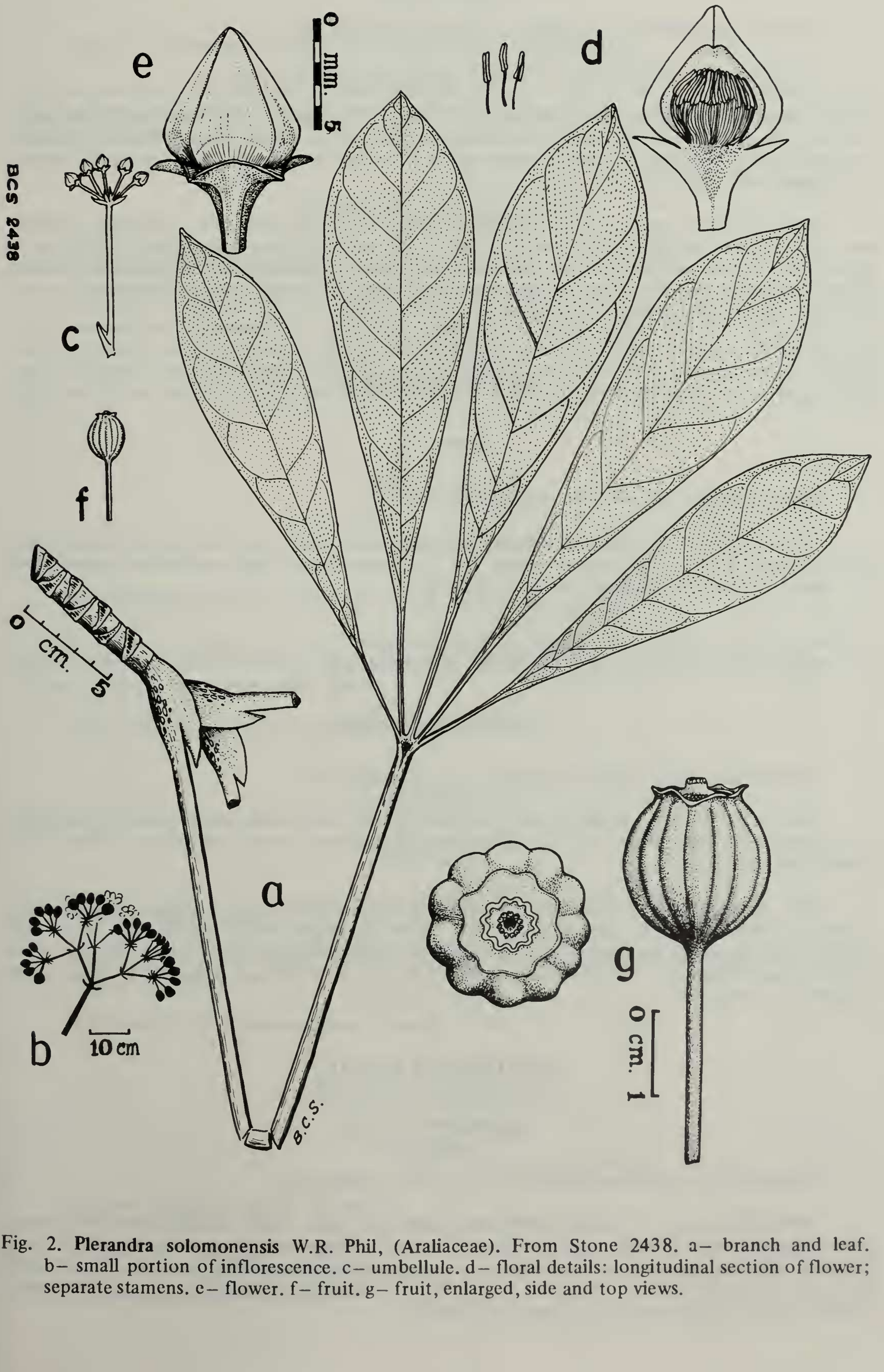

Fig. 2. **Plerandra solomonensis** W.R. Phil, (Araliaceae). From Stone 2438. a– branch and leaf. b– small portion of inflorescence. c– umbellule. d– floral details: longitudinal section of flower; separate stamens. e– flower. f– fruit. g– fruit, enlarged, side and top views.

Gastonia Comm. *ex* Lamk.

(*Peekeliopanax* Harms)

Gastonia spectabilis (Harms) Philipson, Blumea 18 (1970) 494.

Peekeliopanax spectabilis Harms, Notizbl. Bot. Gard. Berlin 9 (1926) 478.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo and vicinity, c. 650 m. alt.; large, single-boled tree, about 30-35 m. tall, distally few and short branched, dense leafy crown of very long, 1–pinnate leaves (to 2 m long) with c. 14 pairs of leaflets, rachis swollen at nodes; not flowering; n.v. "simalau"; 28 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2409** (BISH).

This is certainly one of the most splendid plants in this interesting family. The height, massiveness of the leaves, strength of the wood, and the relative rarity of this species are all notable characteristics that impress the botanical traveller in the Solomons. It was described from material collected in the Bismarck Archipelago (New Britain) by Peekel. Only two trees of this species were seen during my entire stay in the Solomons and Bismarcks.

STYRACACEAE

Styrax L.

Styrax agreste (Lour.) G. Don, Gen. Syst. 4 (1837) 5.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo, 650 m. alt., 20 m. tree, ovary superior, corolla 4-5-lobed, white; stamens 8 or 10, epipetalous; ovules few, pendulous; leaves simple, alternate; stipules none; n.v. "aigasi"; 29 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2407** (A, BISH, US).

APOCYNACEAE

Carruthersia Seemann

Carruthersia mollis Markgraf, Gard. Bull. Sing. 22 (1967) 25.

MALAITA: Tantalau-Fiu River area, Kwara-ae District; vine, corolla white, lobes with yellowish or pinkish spot at base (where they overlap); leaves subcordate; sap milky; alt. 260 m; 25 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2399** (BISH, US).

This specimen differs from the original description, which was based solely on the holotype collection, **Whitmore 2749**, from Bogotu, Santa Ysabel, in having white corollas with only a spot of pink (or yellow) at the base of each corolla lobe, rather than red corolla tubes and pink lobes. No important differences were observed in other features so it would appear that the species is rather variable in corolla color.

ASCLEPIADACEAE

Anodendron A. DC.

Anodendron paniculatum (Roxb.) A. DC., Prodr. 8 (1844) 444.

MALAITA: Kwalo – Tamba'a, Kwara-ae District, alt. 650m., a vine, climbing trees, with terete, brown stems; opposite leaves, nodes annular; fruit of 2 twinned carpels, terete-conic, 12 cm long, nearly 2 cm diam. at the base; seeds plumose, body of seed oblong-elliptic, flat, thin, 17 x 5 mm., attenuate at the apex to a short column 6 x ½ mm, bearing a white plume 6 cm long of numerous, straight, silky hairs; 28 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2447** (BISH).

LOGANIACEAE

Fagraea Thunb.

Fagraea racemosa Jack in Roxb., Fl. Ind. ed. Carey, 2 (1824) 35.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, near Tantalau Village, c. 325 m alt., 7 m. tree with drooping branches, large, dull green leaf blades; white, zygomorphic flowers in terminal racemes, n.v. "ngara"; 23 Sept. 1957, Stone **2328** (BISH).

Geniostoma J.R. & G. Forster

Geniostoma brassii Merr. & Perry, J. Arn. Arb. 23 (1942) 409.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, near Tantalau; 12 m tree, fruits 1.4 cm long, n.v. "mahus-husi" (one of several spp. so named); 23 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2356** (BISH). - Near Kwalo, c. 650 m. alt., 7m tree, or shrubby, leaves opposite, stipulate; blades elliptic, acuminate, paler beneath, rather thin and fragile; petiole 2 cm long; fruits axillary, short-pedicellate, ovoid-ellipsoid, greenish-white, 2-celled; seeds numerous, yellow, in juicy pulp, placenta axile; calyx 5-lobed; 24 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2392** (BISH).

SAPOTACEAE

Planchonella Pierre

Planchonella obovoidea Lam, Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenz. III: 7 (1925) 207.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Kwalo and vicinity, Tamba'a path, rain forest at c. 650 m. altitude, small tree with alternate leaves with close, minute, rusty coloured, scaly indumentum, n.v. "mumu", 29 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2423** (BISH).

Vegetative. The holotype is from Kei Is.

COMPOSITAE

Blumea DC.

Blumea riparia (Bl.) DC., Prod. 5(1836) 444.

MALAITA: Kwara-ae District, Tantalau village, 325m alt.; scandent shrub in clearings; 23 Sept. 1957, Stone **2332** (BISH).

Determined at the Rijksherbarium, Leiden, in 1970.

FLAGELLARIACEAE

Flagellaria L.

Flagellaria indica L., Sp. Pl. (1753) 333.

MALAITA: Fiu River, at 200 m. alt., in secondary forests with *Macaranga, Hibiscus,* and *Ficus;* large vine with leaf tips as coiled tendrils; inflorescence large, terminal, branched. Perianth white; 25 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2395** (BISH).

COMMELINACEAE

Pollia Thunb.

Pollia thyrsiflora Endl. *ex* Hassk. in Miq., Pl. Jungh. (1852) 150.

GUADALCANAL: Tenaru River, in lowland forest, 135-175 m alt.; 15 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2286** (BISH).

New record for the Solomons; not listed in Whitmore (1966).

PALMAE

Heterospathe Scheffer

Heterospathe woodfordiana Becc., Webbia 4:2 (1914) 281.

MALAITA: Kwalo and vicinity, Kwara-ae District, alt. 650 m, small, erect, pinnate-leaved palm; fruits red, n.v. "araramei", 28 Sept. 1957, **Stone 2408** (BISH, 3 sheets).

CYPERACEAE

Scleria Berg.

Scleria lithosperma (L.) Sw., Prod. Veg. Ind. Occ. (1788) 18.

SANTA YSABEL: Above Tatamba, on ridge between Koloteve and Sesedo, c. 275 m. alt., in forests; 15 Oct. 1957, **Stone 2494** (BISH).

Scirpus L.

Scirpus fuirena T. Koyama, J. Fac. Sci. Univ. Tokyo III, 7:6 (1958) 361.

Fuirena umbellata Rottb., Descr. Icon. Pl. (1773) 70, t. 19, f. 3.

MALAITA: Auki swamps, sedge with pentagonal stems, associated with *Pandanus;* 2 Oct. 1957, **Stone 2461** (BISH).